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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

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COUNTRY USSR (Georgian SSR)

DATE DISTR. 19 Oct. 1950

SUBJECT Cost of Living in the Georgian SSR

NO. OF PAGES 2

25X1A

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INFO. [REDACTED]SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1X
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1. Food Prices

Item	Unit	Rubles
Bread, white	kg	7.25
Bread, black	"	2.20
Meat, mutton	"	30.00
Meat, pork	"	35.00
Meat, beef	"	36.00
Butter, creamery	"	39 to 50.00
Margarine	"	28.00
Caviar, fresh	"	400.00
Caviar, red	"	200.00
Sugar	"	14.00
Potatoes	"	2.00
Rice	"	20.00
Flour	"	5.40
Apples	"	8.00
Sunflower oil	liter	30.00
Vodka	liter	120.00
Eggs	each	1.50

2. Clothing Prices

	Rubles
Shoes, men's	500
Shirt, dress	250
Cotton cloth, meter	10 to 60
Suit, men's	1,000 to 3,000
Boots	1,500 to 2,000
Cap	100

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3. Luxury Items

	<u>Rubles</u>
Radio sets	500 to 4,000
Motorcycles	2,550
Automobiles, Moskvich	9,000
Automobiles, Pobeda	16,000
Wrist watch, Soviet make	420
Camera, Komsomolsk	320

4. Utilities

Electricity	1 kilowatt/hour	60 kopeks
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5. Monthly Earnings

	<u>Rubles</u>
Teacher, primary school	200 to 300
Teacher, secondary school	300 to 500
Top bracket scientist or teacher	13,000 to 50,000
Engineer	350 to 1,000
Technician	300 to 400
Domestic servant	110
Doctor	400 to 500
Accountant and bookkeeper	300 to 1,000
Machinist	250
Electrician	200
Militiaman	800 to 1,500
Locomotive engineer	500 to 1,000

Remarks:

6. The consumer prices indicated above for food and clothing are average and the figures may fluctuate. The prices on kolkhoz markets may be twice or thrice the regular prices, and on the black market even higher. The reason is that it is not always possible to obtain desired items in the government stores.
7. The monthly earnings also are average and figures may run considerably higher than stated in the above list, depending on the place, the nature of the job, and the worker himself. Some of the stakhanovites and udarniks at the Baku petroleum refineries earn as high as 2,500 to 3,000 rubles per month. However, the norms (quotas) of these workers are very high and do not apply to the majority of workers and technicians. The police character of the Soviet "democratic" government is well illustrated by the earnings of a militiaman (policeman), who receives much more than an average teacher or doctor.
8. Automobiles are now sold without restriction in the USSR. The only requirement is that a buyer possess a driver's license and register with the transportation section of the militia, where vehicle tags are issued.
9. The best hotel in Tbilisi is the Novy Tbilisi, which has a very good restaurant. Prices for a room and bath are as high as 150 rubles a day. A dinner with wine costs between 120 and 150 rubles.
10. The fare for taxicabs in Tbilisi is two rubles per kilometer.